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people? When there is a guarantee of the pay disbursing officer to recover the amounts and pay to the societies, why was this concession withdrawn in respect of these people alone?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : Sir, in the case of the Government servants also, there were defaults. But in the case of the local body servants, there was an additional handicap, namely, there were cases of impersonation. Therefore, the concession was stopped.

SRI G. KRISHNAMOORTHY : Is it a fact that while the Government themselves have authorised the local bodies to grant this concession to their servants, the local bodies were reluctant to do so?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : Sir, provided the local bodies agree to pay the money to the societies, the concessions may be extended on their own responsibility.

SRI M. RAJAH IYER : Has there been any representation from the local body servants that this concession should not be cancelled? Simply because there have been a few cases of impersonation, is it proper to punish the entire body of local body servants?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : Sir, the first consideration is security for the money. We find that the security for the money in the case of local body servants is rather poor, Therefore, it was stopped.

SRI S. K. SAMBANDHAN : Will the Hon. Minister tell us whether they will extent the concession to the teachers if the managements of the aided institutions come forward to give the necessary security?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : Sir, it is a hypothetical question. The situation must arise and then Government will examine.

DR. A. SREENIVASAN : How many cases of impersonation were there during the past one year?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : A number of cases.

DR. A. SREENIVASAN : Will the Hon. Minister give us the number?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : A separate question may be put. 5-10 p.m.

Distribution of electricity

* 179 *Q.*—SRI K. S. ABDUL WAHAB : Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries be pleased to state the names of private licensees and the local authorities who distribute electricity and the areas under their control?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : A statement [a] is placed on the table of the House.

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[a] Printed as Appendix I on pages 63-66.

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SRI K. S. ABDUL WAHAB : What steps do the Government propose to take to satisfy the public complaint of dissatisfaction against the management of the private licensee?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : In July of this year, there will be discussion on the Electricity Board budget. This is a question which involves a statement of policy. Therefore, I will not be able to answer the question in an interpellation. This may be taken up when the budget of the State Electricity Board is taken up for discussion later on.

SRI M. SUBBIAH CHETTIAR : Sir, has there not been any complaint from the public that the private licensee is not doing the job pretty well?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : Yes, Sir. There are a number of cases.

SRI K. S. ABDUL WAHAB : Sir, is there any proposal to nationalise some or all of the private electrical undertakings?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : I cannot be persuaded to make a policy statement during the interpellation time.

Loans to unemployed goldsmiths

* 180 Q.—SRI M. SUBBIAH CHETTIAR : Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries be pleased to state—

(*a*) the amount, if any, allotted for the grant of loans to unemployed goldsmiths;

(*b*) the conditions under which the loans are granted; and

(*c*) the amount of loan disbursed to unemployed goldsmiths, till date?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : (*a*) to (*c*) A statement is placed on the table of the House.

SRI M. SUBBIAH CHETTIAR : From the statement placed on the table of the House, it is seen that nearly a sum of Rs. 30 lakhs has been allotted. But actually it is only Rs. 15 lakhs. May I know, Sir, how many applications have been sanctioned and how many are pending?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : This relates to the period up to the end of the 9th February. Subsequently, we have allotted up to Rs. 30 lakhs. If a separate question is put, I will be able to give the break-up.

SRI M. SUBBIAH CHETTIAR : Sir, after the first year, the loans have to be repaid in fourteen half-yearly instalments. Will the Government allow the recovery of the amount to be made after three years, because the goldsmiths are suffering from great difficulties?

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a Printed as Appendix II on page 67.